



International Trade Union Confederation

GENERAL COUNCIL

Brussels, Belgium, 29 November – 1 December 2017

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## Agenda item 17

### Any Other Business

#### (a) Draft resolution on North Korea

In keeping with its Declaration of Principles, the ITUC unwaveringly supports the principles and role of the United Nations (UN) and its unique legitimacy and authority to stand as an effective guarantee of peace, security and development, commanding the respect and adherence of all in the international community.

The ITUC:

Expresses grave concern at the risks caused by increased activity in the North Korean nuclear weapons programme, which poses an imminent threat to millions of people in the region and in other countries;

Recalls that the North Korean dictatorship violently and totally suppresses human rights, including freedom of association, assembly and speech inside the country, and that nearly half of the population live in hunger;

Acknowledges that some 50,000 North Korean migrant workers work abroad in an estimated 40 countries, mainly in mining, logging, textiles and construction in conditions of extreme exploitation and denial of fundamental rights;

Endorses the UN Security Council Resolution 2375 of 2017 imposing further economic sanctions on North Korea, in particular paras. 17 and 18 in a global effort to de-escalate tensions and push the North Korean regime to abandon its nuclear weapons programme to open the way for a diplomatic solution;

Underlines the importance of effective enforcement of economic sanctions recognising that weak enforcement has enabled the DPRK dictatorship to generate enough revenue to maintain its nuclear arms programme and sustain the absolute dictatorship of the ruling family;

Emphasises that statements from political figures which inflame the situation undermine the prospects of dialogue for a peaceful solution;

Resolves to maintain pressure on countries and companies that do business with the regime, to campaign against the illegal use of North Korean migrant labour, to support the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 2375 and to reinforce international efforts for a peaceful solution to the current crisis, with the realisation of fundamental rights for all the people of North Korea and of the objective of reunification of South and North Korea.

The General Council is requested to endorse the above draft Resolution on North Korea.